

COUNTRY East Germany SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Gotha

25X1	EVALUATION <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 15px;"></span>	PLACE OBTAINED <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 15px;"></span>	25X1
25X1	DATE OF CONTENT <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 200px; height: 15px;"></span>		
25X1	DATE OBTAINED <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 15px;"></span>	DATE PREPARED	31 July 1953
25X1	REFERENCES <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 200px; height: 15px;"></span>		
	PAGES <u>1</u> ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____		
	REMARKS _____		

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1. Between 18 June and 17 July 1953, eight two-story quartering buildings of the barracks installations on either side of Schubertstrasse, Gotha, were fully lighted after nightfall.  the occupation of the installations at about 2,000 troops. The troops observed wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and the officers wore no branch of service insignia. An average of about 10 two-axle trucks were in the yard during the period under review. At 6 p.m. on 18, 19 and 20 June, 15 trucks, each occupied by about 30 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, left the installation toward the town. On 23 June, 10 groups each of about 10 soldiers drilled with rifles and about 60 troops practiced firing in the barracks yard. On 28 June, about 400 troops watched a ball game. On 29 June, about 220 troops were lined up in front of the main railroad station and subsequently left for the barracks installations on Schubertstrasse. The soldiers, who looked tired, apparently returned from an exercise. They included unusually many lieutenants and were led by a colonel without branch of service insignia. On 7 July, three platoons of each 30 soldiers practiced marching in the barracks yard. On 17 July, about 100 troops drilled at squad level and about 100 troops engaged in physical training.<sup>1</sup>
2. On 7 July, about 2,000 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets were entrained at the Hechterstedt railroad station. A railroadman stated that the train left toward Erfurt via Gotha.<sup>2</sup> On 8 July, about 20 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>34</sub> tanks were seen en route from Gospiroda toward Hitzberg.<sup>3</sup>

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1.  Comment. In early June, the barracks installations were occupied only by a major rear detail. The units observed after 18 June, according to a previous report  presumably arrived from the Kindel troop training grounds on 17 June.  The occupation strength is believed overstated as it almost corresponds to the permanent occupation.

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2.  Comment.  engineer and mortar units of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, which presumably went to Dessau, were entrained at Kindel

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3.  Comment. Presumably units practicing at the Chrdruf troop training grounds.

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